

Earth Materials

1-4 The student will demonstrate an understanding of the properties of Earth materials. (Earth Science)

1.4.6 Exemplify Earth materials that are used for building structures or for growing plants.

Taxonomy level: 2.2-A Understand Factual Knowledge

Previous/Future knowledge: This is a foundational concept that students will develop further in future grades. Students have learned about nutrients from the soil (1-1.2) and the value of topsoil (1-4.1, 1-4.3). In 3rd grade (3-3.1), students will classify types of soil based on its properties. In 7th grade (7-3.6), students will classify resources as renewable or nonrenewable.

It is essential for students to know that Earth materials can be used for building structures or for growing plants. Examples of some ways that Earth materials can be used include:

<i>Rocks</i>	Making roads, walls, or buildings
<i>Sand</i>	Making glass, growing certain types of plants (for example a desert plant)
<i>Soil</i>	Making bricks, growing certain types of plants (for example a forest plant)
<i>Water</i>	Growing plants must take in water through their roots

But humans are not the only ones that use Earth materials. Birds use twigs, leaves, soil, and straw to make their homes and some insect homes are made from soil.

It is not essential for students to know the names of specific Earth materials (for example granite, kaolin, slate).

Assessment Guidelines:

The objective of this indicator is to *exemplify* Earth materials that are used for building structures or growing plants; therefore, the primary focus of assessment should be to give examples of Earth materials that can be used as building materials or for growing plants. However, appropriate assessments should also require students to *identify* Earth materials used for building structures or growing plants; or *illustrate* through drawings or descriptions Earth materials that are used for buildings or growing plants.